

the host. The wall of the former breaks down over the area of contact, but the protoplasmic threads do not penetrate and become continuous with the protoplasm of the sieve cells. The parasite seems to receive the food passively through the action of internal pressure in the cells of the host.

The author suggests that this study appears to lend support to Gardiner's view that connecting threads of protoplasm, as found between the cells of some plants, represent original connections between genetically connected cells due to lack of complete dividing walls along the plane of division, and are not secondary connections of the protoplasts effected by the cell walls being perforated by advancing protoplasmic fibrils.

A NEW FORM OF PARASITISM

Jensen (*Ann. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg*, 1910) reports the study of several species of dipterous larvae, belonging to not less than three different families, that are able to live in the mixture found in pitchers of *Nepenthes*. They are able to resist the action of the ferments secreted by the *Nepenthes*, which digests the other contained organisms. He found that closely related larvae taken from nearby waters were wholly unable to withstand the action of the fluid. These conditions seem quite analogous to those encountered and overcome by some intestinal parasites of animals.

BACTERIA IN RIVER WATER

Reiss (*Verh. Phys. Med. Gessell. Wurtzburg*, 1911) reports the finding of as many as sixty-two species of bacteria in samples of river water taken from the Main, near Wurtzburg. On cultivation, a number of species showed resemblances to known pathogenic types, but seemed to have lost their virulence. This is certainly a remarkable showing of bacteria.

CONDITION OF CONTINUOUS DIVISION IN PARAMECIUM

Woodruff (*Biol. Bull.*, Dec., 1911) believes that most, if not all, normal individuals of *Paramecium*, under suitable environmental conditions, possess unlimited power of reproduction without conjugation or artificial stimulation; and that the discrepant results of dif-